

BOOKS RECEIVED

JOHN F. LESLIE and BRETT A. SUMMERELL, Photographs by SUZANNE BULLOCK. 2006. **The Fusarium Laboratory Manual.** (ISBN 0-8138-1919-9, pbk.). Blackwell Publishing, 2121 State Ave., Ames, IA 50014-8300, U.S.A. (**Orders:** 515-292-0140, 515-292-3348 fax 1-800-862-6657, www.blackwellprofessional.com, orders@ames.blackwellpublishing.com), \$124.99, 388 pp., numerous b/w illustrations, 8 1/2" × 11".

From the Publisher.—"For the first time in over 20 years, a comprehensive collection of photographs and descriptions of species in the fungal genus *Fusarium* is available. This laboratory manual provides an overview of the biology of *Fusarium* and the techniques involved in the isolation, identification and characterization of individual species and the populations in which they occur. It is the first time that genetic, morphological and molecular approaches have been incorporated into a volume devoted to *Fusarium* identification. The authors include descriptions of species, both new and old, and provide protocols for genetic, morphological and molecular identification techniques."

"The *Fusarium Laboratory Manual* also includes some of the evolutionary biology and population genetics thinking that has begun to inform the understanding of agriculturally important fungal pathogens. In addition to practical "how-to" protocols it also provides guidance in formulating questions and obtaining answers about this very important group of fungi. The need for as many different techniques as possible to be used in the identification and characterization process has never been greater. These approaches have applications to fungi other than those in the genus *Fusarium*. This volume presents an introduction to the genus *Fusarium*, the toxins these fungi produce and the diseases they can cause."

KRIS M. HAVSTAD, LAURA F. HUENNEKE, and WILLIAM H. SCHLESINGER. (eds.). 2006. **Structure and Function of a Chihuahuan Desert Ecosystem. The Jornada Basin Long-Term Ecological Research Site.** (ISBN 978-0-19-511776-9, hbk.). Oxford University Press, 2001 Evans Road, Cary, NC 27513, U.S.A. (**Orders:** 800-451-7556; <http://www.oup.com>). \$74.50, 465 pp., b/w halftones, maps and line illustrations, 6 1/8" × 9 1/4".

From the Publisher.—"The Jornada Basin LTER is located in the Chihuahuan Desert, the largest in North America. This region of south central New Mexico has a history of nearly 100 years as the basis for scientific research. This work gives a thorough, encompassing review of the tremendous array of observations resulting from experiments conducted in this ecosystem. Beginning with thorough descriptions of the most salient features of the region, the book then reviews a wide range of archived and active data sets on a diversity of biotic and abiotic features. It next presents a syntheses of important topics including livestock grazing and remediation efforts. A concluding chapter provides a synthesis of the principles that have emerged from this body of work, and how these relate to the broader fields of ecology and natural resource management. It concludes with recommendations for future research directions. The insightful views expressed in this volume should guide management of arid landscapes globally. This is the sixth volume in the Long Term Ecological Network Series."